

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Masahiko Matsukawa et al.

Application No.: 10/743,389

Confirmation No.: 7940

Filed: December 23, 2003

Art Unit: 1773

For: CHEMICAL CONVERSION COATING
AGENT AND SURFACE-TREATED METAL

Examiner: K. R. Kruer

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the mailing date of a First Office on the merits but before the mailing date of Final Office Action under §1.113 or Notice of Allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in this application.

The relevance of Citation BC can be found in its attached English language abstract and its attached Full Machine English language translation. The relevance of Citations BD and BF can be found in their attached English language abstracts. The relevance of Citation BE can be found in its attached Partial English language translation. The relevance of Citation BA can be found in its English language abstract and in Citation AA which is a national phase of Citation

BA. The relevance of Citation BB can be found in its English language abstract and in Citation AB which is a national phase of Citation BB. The relevance of Citation BF can be found in Citation BG which is a family application of BF and claims the same priority. Citations BA-BF are cited references in the third party observation for a counterpart JP Application No. 2003-403693 (copy enclosed), which was received on October 23, 2007.

I hereby certify, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2), that no item contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(ii), Applicant has not submitted copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is “prior art” for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 21581-00310-US. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: November 29, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: /Burton A. Amernick/
Burton A. Amernick

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